Official Minutes for Webb County Commissioners Court Meeting

Monday, March 13, 2006 at 1:00 PM and continuing Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 1:00 PM

(Approved 03-27-2006)

Item No. 1 Call to order by Judge Louis H. Bruni

Let it be remembered that a regular meeting of the Webb County Commissioners Court was held at 1:00 p.m. at the regular meeting place with the following members present to wit:

Louis H. Bruni County Judge

Frank Sciaraffa Commissioner, Pct. 1
Judith Gutierrez Commissioner, Pct. 2
Jerry Garza Commissioner, Pct. 3

Not Present:

Cindy Cortez-Brunner Commissioner, Pct. 4

Thus constituting a quorum, the Commissioners Court proceeded to act upon the Agenda as posted in the meeting notice of the 10th of March 2006. Present also were Ms. Nora Elia Prado, Deputy County Clerk representing Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court, various officers and others interested in the business of the Court.

Item No. 2 Roll Call – Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk

Mrs. Margie Ramirez Ibarra, Webb County Clerk, advised the court that Cmr. Cortez-Brunner had notified her that she would be unable to attend today's meeting due to a medical appointment.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to excuse Cmr. Cortez-Brunner from today's meeting. Cmr Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 3 Pledge of Allegiance – Led by All

Item No. 4 Approval of minutes – February 27, 2006

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 5 Approval of bills, payroll and monthly reports

Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, advised the court that he had submitted his report last week. He stated that there were no items that needed any highlighting.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve the Auditor's Report. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 6 Communications

Cmr. Sciaraffa welcomed home the members of the 851st Army Reserve Unit who returned from active military duty this weekend.

Cmr. Gutierrez also welcomed home the 851st Army Reserve Unit. She stated that their families were affected by their leaving for duty and that a wonderful reception was held for them.

Judge Bruni also welcomed home the 851st Army Reserve Unit and thanked them for their service to the U.S.

Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Executive Administrator, advised the court that Cmr. Cortez-Brunner requested that he announce the groundbreaking ceremony for the Mines Road Railroad Overpass. He stated that this was a project of over \$31 million and that groundbreaking was scheduled fro March 27th at 9:30 AM.

Item No. 7 Public Comment

Mr. Jesus M. Sanchez was present to address Item No. 9. He stated that the residents at Los Botines were close to a water source and that the county should focus on colonias that are further away from the water source. He wished Judge Bruni good luck in his future endeavors.

Ms. Olga Duarte, Safe Haven employee, was present to address Item No. 15. She stated that their program funding was to finish at the end of this month. She stated that this was a worthwhile program that helps the children of Webb County that are caught in the middle of domestic disputes.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to move up Item No. 15. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 15 Discussion and possible action to allocate approximately \$80,000.00 for the Safe Haven Program administration for the remainder of the budget fiscal year (Sept 30, 2006), and any other matters incident thereto.

District Attorney Joe Rubio was present to address the court. He stated that he supports the Safe Haven Program. He stated that it offers a safe environment for the exchange of children for visitation purposes in cases where domestic violence is present. He stated that the program has received a lot of referrals and would like for

the court to see if there are any monies available to be able to fund the program until the end of the fiscal year.

Judge Oscar Hale, 406th District Court, was present to address the court. He stated that this was a very important program and that there were 220 pending referrals from the different courts for this program. He stated that they have been able to prevent instances of domestic violence in many cases. He stated that there are looking into additional funding sources in the event that the grant application for the next fiscal year is not approved. He stated that another option to save monies would be to move the office to an office at the Red Cross at a discounted rate.

Judge Elma Teresa Salinas Ender, 341st District Court, was present to address the court. She stated that besides preventing incidents of abuse, programs such as the Safe Haven Program shield children from exposure to domestic violence. She stated that studies have shown that children exposed to domestic violence are more prone to violence as they get older. She stated that the judges' support of this program is clearly shown by the number of referrals issued to the program.

Cmr. Garza stated that the court needed to see if there were any monies available to fund the project until the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director, stated that the grant submitted was a re-funding application for \$250,000 for a period of two years. He stated that they should receive a response by August 2006 as to whether they were approved or not. He stated that another possible source of funding would be through Third Party funding with Webb County and other entities.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve the funding for this item from payroll savings. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 8 Status report on secondary water source: water well on Carrizo Wilcox Aquifer.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez, County Engineer, stated that he received a fax stating the drilling has already begun. He stated that 10 inch casings are being used.

Item No. 9 Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the County Staff to acquire the Botines Water Well and water distribution system at no cost to the county. Furthermore Authorizing County Staff to request the City to provide service to the Botines area or request that they decertify their Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) and for Webb County to add the Botines and La Moca area to the County's CCN.

Judge Bruni stated that there will not be a problem with platting at Los Botines since the water is already available.

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 10 Discussion and possible action to direct the Webb County Purchasing Agent to solicit requests for proposals from providers of helicopter ambulance services for Webb County, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Garza inquired as to the county's scope of service for air ambulance service. Judge Bruni stated that the ambulance service would not be a county project but would be subsidized with \$75,000 that has already been set aside. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, recommended that the Purchasing Agent meet with the Sheriff's Department, Mr. Carlos Villarreal, Mr. Raul Casso, himself and other affected parties to see what is necessary for this proposal.

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Cmr. Gutierrez requested an opportunity to review the RFQ before it is sent out.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 11 Discussion and possible action to direct staff to prepare a comprehensive inventory of all county projects currently in progress (including Villa Antigua); report to include commencement dates, progress reports, and estimated dates of completion, with further direction that staff submit the inventory, with copies to all Commissioners, by no later than the Monday before the next regularly scheduled Commissioners Court meeting, and any other matters incident thereto.

Judge Bruni motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 12 Discussion and possible action to direct staff to assemble a status report on the oil and gas litigation conducted on behalf of Webb County by oil and gas lawyers, including arranging for said lawyers to be present at the next regularly scheduled commissioners court meeting so that such a report may be provided to the Court, and any other matters incident thereto.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 14 Discussion and possible action to approve the following individuals for membership in the Webb County Historical Commission.

Mr. Odie Arambula

Mr. John Campbell

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to move into Executive Session for Item No. 13. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (2:03 PM to 2:35 PM)

Judge Bruni reconvened the meeting and stated that no action was taken while in Executive Session.

Item No. 13 Status report on the sale of the Webb County Detention Center [Possible Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Title 5, Subchapter D (Consultation with Attorney; Real Property Transaction)]

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, advised the court that no action was needed since this item was for status only.

Item No. 16 Discussion and possible action to approve the filing of a grant application with the South Texas Development Council for a Regional Solid Waste Grants Program Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 with an in-kind match of \$6,000.00; and to designate Webb County Judge Louis H. Bruni to act on behalf of Webb County in all matters relating to the application; and to pledge that if a grant is received, Webb County will comply with the grant requirements of the South Texas Development Council, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the State of Texas.

Mr. Juan Vargas, Economic Development Director, stated that this grant was to develop a curriculum for second and third grade classrooms to promote recycling, being litter-free and living an environmentally friendly lifestyle.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 17 Discussion and possible action to recommend approval of The Webb County Community Action Agency to enter into an agreement with the

Senior Circle nonprofit organization to provide services for adults 50 and over at a cost of \$15.00 per person per year not to exceed \$1,500.00.

Mr. Mike Kazen, CAA Director, stated that this is a nationwide organization that allows adults over the age of 50 to participate in several programs. He stated that these activities are held year round and would supplement the current programs offered.

Cmr. Garza stated that the funding for this project would be coming from Capital Outlay – Parks & Recreation Fund.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 18 Presentation and briefing by Election Systems and Software on problems encountered during March 7, 2006 primary election in Webb County, with possible action.

Cmr. Garza stated that Webb County received a lot of media coverage regarding the problems encountered Election Night. He stated that the use of electronic voting was required by HAVA (Help Americans Vote Act) but that he wanted to make sure that the equipment that was purchased by Webb County is what was promised. He stated that the voting public will lose faith in the election process due to what happened. He stated that they needed to find out where the problem originated, whether it be the Elections Administrative office or with Election Systems and Software (ES&S) and they needed to be held accountable. Judge Bruni stated that he questioned Mr. Oscar Villarreal, Elections Administrator, when he was choosing the software about many possible scenarios. He stated that he was assured by Mr. Villarreal that nothing would go wrong but stated that this was the lowest voter turnout in twenty years. He stated that he was able to find a lot of information regarding problems that other counties and states had with ES&S. Mr. Oscar Villarreal, Elections Administrator, stated that the problem was not with his staff but with the software and equipment provided by ES&S. He stated that neither the Elections Administrative Office nor the M.I.S. Department did any of the programming. He stated that every election has problems and that this election seemed to have more than others. He stated that there were problems with candidates entering election sites, finding election judges to run the sites and finding out when the PEBs arrived that the computer was not programmed to read the PEBs but the flashcards. Cmr. Garza stated that the problems originated when ES&S sent the PEBs for McMullen County instead of Webb County and three days of early voting were lost. He stated that Webb County did not receive the necessary technical support from ES&S. Judge Bruni stated that Mr. Villarreal should have checked the equipment prior to the lection. He stated that there were many candidates claiming victory before the counting was completed due to information being leaked by the Elections Office. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she was concerned about the election process and dismayed that the results were not ready until 4:30 the next morning. She stated that this was a great source of embarrassment, concerns, worries and disappointment. She stated that she no longer has any confidence or trust in the

system. Judge Bruni stated that as per his poll watchers, there were five ballot boxes with broken seals that were received and left in an office unaccompanied. Cmr. Gutierrez stated that she received a slip of paper from someone at her headquarters that showed the results of some of the precincts. Mr. Villarreal stated that the results should not have been able to be printed since the printers from the machines were removed for the same reason. He stated that his office did not receive training on how to tabulate the votes using the flashcards since they were told by ES&S that the PEBs would be used to read the votes. Mr. Chris Moody, Texas Representative for ES&S, stated that the use of the flashcards was restricted depending on the number of precincts and candidates. He stated that the number of election precincts and candidates exceeded the number allowed for use of the PEBs so the use of the flashcards was required. He stated that ES&S failed to properly train Webb County election employees how to use the flashcards. He stated that the software and hardware is tested by the company and the state to be sure that it cannot be tampered with. Cmr. Garza stated that when Webb County first went out for bids, ES&S was at every meeting for several months promising the world and delivering nothing. He stated that they were left without any tech support. Mr. Villarreal stated that his office did not know that they did not receive complete training since they were trained to use the DRNs, the iVotronics and PEBs. Cmr. Garza advised Mr. Moody that they needed to take responsibility for what happened and apologize not only to the court but to the voters of Webb County. Mr. Moody stated that they did apologize for what happened but that it was a good system and that he would be here 3-4 days prior to Early Voting up to Election Day and would have additional support staff present. Mr. Raul Casso, Chief of Staff, stated that there was an ES&S representative present on Election Night but that he did not seem familiar with the software. Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the goal of Webb County was to move towards electronic voting eventually. He stated that the problems that occurred were external but should have been discussed internally. He stated that he is not happy with what occurred and would like to discuss the options available at a future meeting once all the information has been collected and put together. He stated that he takes the right to vote very seriously since it is one of the few rights that equalizes everyone regardless of background.

MEDIA BREAK (3:38 PM to 4:08 PM)

Item No. 19 Consideration and appropriate action for the Commissioners Court to approve request from the Tax Assessor-Collector's Office, Dept. 0700: Refund due as follows:

Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Services, LLC, ATTN: Refunds/ Financial 1 Home Campus, MAC #X2502-011, Des Moines, Iowa 50328-0001

Acc # 900-90221-219 Reason: Over Payment Total Refund: \$3,262.01

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 20 Discussion and possible action to seek funds to purchase a washer for the Webb County Jail from American West Laundry Distributors, Inc. in the amount of \$ 15,950.00. (3 bids submitted)

Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, stated that he has spoken with Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, who stated that there may be some monies available in payroll saving. Judge Bruni inquired whether it was possible to use forfeiture monies. Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that this is for the purchase of a 144 lb. commercial washer since one of the two they have is in constant need of repair. Sheriff Flores stated that his department has contributed a lot of money to the county's coffers and is asking for their assistance on this item. Mr. J.J. Gonzalez, Sheriff Comptroller, stated that year to date, they have contributed \$99,000 from CCA revenues alone. Cmr. Sciaraffa advised the Sheriff that the Court has been more than generous to the Sheriff as well. Mr. Leo Flores, County Auditor, stated that forfeiture funds can only be used for law enforcement purposes.

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve funding for this item from the Sheriff's payroll savings. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 21 Discussion and possible action to accept an award from the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) for the Webb County Sheriff's Department 2006 National Crime Victim's Rights Week (NCVRW) in the amount \$ 5,000.00 for expenses to be incurred for the community awareness project to be implemented in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, the Children's Advocacy Center of Webb County-Laredo, Casa de Misericordia-Mercy Ministries of Laredo, and other relevant service providers.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to move up Item No. 39 and No. 41. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 39 Discussion and possible action to purchase two (2) all terrain vehicles in the amount of \$71,164.50 from Philpott Motor Company, through the Houston Galveston Area Council, Bid VE10-03 for the Sheriff's Department.324-2001-8801.

Mr. Rick Flores, County Sheriff, stated that this would be funded by grant monies from the Governor's Office.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 41 Discussion and possible action to purchase the following equipment for the Sheriff's Department:

Capital Outlay Account: 324-2001-8801

Qty. Description Vendor Amount

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|---|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 2 | 2006 Yamaha (ATV) | Laredo Yamaha | \$9,030.00 |
| | Model YFM40FVGR | | |
| 1 | 7000LB Utility Trailer | Grant Distributors | \$1,985.00 |
| | | Grand Total | \$11,015.00 |

Minor Tools & Apparatus Account: 324-2001-6224

Law Enforcement Supplies

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that under Law Enforcement Supplies, the total amount would be \$26,648.61.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (September 1, 2005 through August 31, 2006) interlocal agreement with Laredo Independent School District (LISD) for four (4) Justices of the Peace Juvenile Court Coordinators in the amounts of ELEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHT DOLLARS AND EIGHTY CENTS (\$11,508.80) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 1, Place 1, FOURTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE DOLLARS (\$14,683.00) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 1, Place 2, and FOURTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$14,119.50) for the coordinator assigned to J.P. Court Precinct 2, Place 1 and authorizing the County Judge to sign all relevant documents. [Requested by Justices of the Peace Pct. 1, Pl. 1, Pct. 1, Pl. 2, Pct. 2, Pl. 1, Account No. #6022 (Professional Services)]

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that it should be three (3) not four (4) JP Coordinator slots.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 23

Discussion and possible action to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Laredo Community College for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 (October 1, 2005- September 30, 2006) which will provide students to work at various county offices and departments as part of the Federal Work-Study Program at a cost to the county not to exceed TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) over the term of the agreement and to allow the county judge to execute all relevant documents.

[Requested by Planning Department, Account No. 001-0109-7459 (IDEO Work Study)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Homero Ramirez, County Attorney, stated that the project was coordinated by Mr. Carlos Villarreal and Mr. Raul Casso. He recommended that a meeting be held to formalize the process or possibly have the work studies routed through HR.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 24
Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007) maintenance agreement with ThyssenKrupp for the maintenance of two (2) ThyssenKrupp Elevators located at the Webb County Administration Building at an annual cost of FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIX DOLLARS AND FORTY-ONE CENTS (\$4,126.41), seeking a discretionary exemption to the competitive bidding statute (Local Gov't Code section 262.024(a)(7) (Sole Source), and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Facilities Director, Account 001-0106-6401 (Repairs and Maintenance Buildings)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007) maintenance agreement with ThyssenKrupp for the maintenance of one (1) ThyssenKrupp Elevator located at the Webb County Courthouse at an annual cost of TWO THOUSAND SIXTY-THREE DOLLARS AND TWENTY-ONE CENTS (\$2,063.21), seeking a discretionary exemption to the competitive bidding statute (Local Gov't Code section 262.024(a)(7) (Sole Source), and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Facilities Director, Account 001-0106-6401 (Repairs and Maintenance Buildings)]

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 26

Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007) maintenance agreement with ThyssenKrupp for the maintenance of one (1) ThyssenKrupp Elevator located at the Webb County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 Building at an annual cost of ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND FOURTEEN CENTS (\$1,318.14), seeking a discretionary exemption to the competitive bidding statute (Local Gov't Code section 262.024(a)(7) (Sole Source), and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Facilities Director, Account 001-0106-6401 (Repairs and Maintenance Buildings)]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 27

Discussion and possible action to enter into a one (1) year (February 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007) maintenance agreement with ThyssenKrupp for the maintenance of five (5) ThyssenKrupp Elevators located at the Webb County Justice Center at an annual cost of TEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE DOLLARS AND SIXTY-NINE CENTS (\$10,621.69), seeking a discretionary exemption to the competitive bidding statute (Local Gov't Code section 262.024(a)(7) (Sole Source), and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents. [Requested by Facilities Director, Account 001-0106-6401 (Repairs and Maintenance Buildings)]

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 28

Discussion and possible action to enter into Third Party Funding Agreements as Follow:

General Fund

Savate Boxing \$5,620.00

and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 29 Discussion and possible action to approve the following line item transfer.

FROM: 001-2503-6402 Repairs & Maint. Equipment \$1,000.00

TO: 001-2503-6205 Materials and Supplies

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 30 Discussion and possible action to accept first installment of funding from CPL Retail Energy's Neighbor to Neighbor Program for PY - 2006 in the amount of \$34,700.26.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 31 Discussion and Possible action to approve the appointment of a Civic/Social Organization, The Laredo HSDA HIV/AIDS Services Consortia, Inc., for Category "C" for the Community Action Agency Advisory Board, to fill current vacancy

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 32 Discussion and Possible action to approve submission of an application to the United Way of Laredo for the Webb County Community Action Agency's Elderly Nutrition Program in the amount of \$75,000.00

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Discussion and possible action to accept recommendations from the Webb County Housing Rehabilitation Scoring Committee on the following eligible applicants to receive assistance under the Neighborhood Initiative Housing Rehabilitation Program and authorize the County Purchasing Agent to solicit construction bids. All proposed Housing Rehabilitation activity will be paid for through grant funds. The Scoring Committee recommends the following applicants:

Alicia Gomez

831 Rancho Peñitas Rd.

Peñitas West

Rosario Salinas RR22 Box 300-14 Sylvia Cuevas RR3 Box 408

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Peñitas West

Los Altos Hwy 359

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 34 Discussion and possible action to authorize the filling of slot # 1508 (Office Manager) at an annual salary of up to \$25,000 (Twenty-Five Thousand dollars), effective March 10, 2006. (Account # 001-0104-5001)

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 35 Discussion and possible action to lease mailing equipment through the Texas Building Procurement Commission contract number 985-A4 for sixty (60) months for the amount of \$846.00 monthly for the Tax Office. 001-0106-6402

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Mr. Eloy Ramirez, Purchasing Agent, stated that the correct amount is \$896.00.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 36 Discussion and possible action to purchase two (2) Dell computers through the State of Texas Department of Information Resources contract number DIRSDD- 192 in the amount of \$6,576.18 for the Planning Department.010-2202- 8405.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

- Item No. 37 Discussion and possible action to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$18,048.00 to Philpott Motors through the Houston Galveston Area Council Bid No VE10-03 to purchase additional emergency equipment for three patrol vehicles for Constable Pct. 1. 682-0103-8801
 - (3) ½ slider screen cages
 - (3) Push bumpers with wrap around
 - (3) Red & Blue led push bumper lights
 - (3) Mobile Vision cameras & sound video systems
 - (3) K-Band Dual antenna radars

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 38 Discussion and possible action to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$6,542.88 to Motorola, Inc. through the Houston Galveston Area Council, Contract Number RA01-06 to purchase three two-way radios, Model XTL2500 for patrol vehicles for Constable Pct. 1. 682-0103-8801

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 40 Discussion and possible action to lease purchase one (1) digital copier from Toshiba in the amount of \$166.30 monthly for thirty-six (36) months for the Risk Management Department.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 42 Discussion and possible action to award the Bid No. 2006-11for the construction of the Rio Bravo Recreational Center to Prada Construction in the amount of \$456,800.00 from Fund 658 County Park Development, Series 2003, Acct. No. 658-8103-8710-1,Available Funds:\$313,196 and \$165,000 from Bond Series 2006. Requested by Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa, Pct. 1

Cmr. Garza motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 43 Discussion and possible action to approve the payment of over-time hours accrued due to interior building repairs relating to 2003, Storm and ADA Compliance Regulations.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

RECESS UNTIL 4:54 PM (4:25 PM to 4:56 PM)

Addendum Item No. 1

Discussion and possible action to modify the Intergovernmental Agreement with the U.S. Marshals Service by increasing the per diem rate of \$49.43 to \$56.84 and ratify said agreement to be effective as of March 1, 2006 and authorizing the County Judge to execute all relevant documents.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Addendum Item No. 2

Discussion and possible action authorizing the County Judge to reappoint the County Engineer as Webb County's Representative to the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority Board.

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Sciaraffa seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Addendum Item No. 3

Discussion and possible action authorizing the Road & Bridge Department to pick up tires on county roads.

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Addendum Item No. 4

Discussion and possible action to fill Slot #2290 at a salary of \$38,000.00 and rename it as Director of Facilities fro South Webb County Community Centers/Library Coordinator, and any other matters incident thereto. [Funding Source Surplus 2005-06 personnel line items]

Cmr. Sciaraffa motioned to approve item as submitted. Cmr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.

Item No. 44 Adjournment

Cmr. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn the meeting. Cmr. Garza seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-0 with Cmr. Cortez-Brunner not present.